

REMARKS

The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response to the outstanding Action. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to further set forth the invention. No new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, claims 1-6 are pending in this application and are submitted for consideration.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Suzuki (U.S. Patent No. 5,060,272, "*Suzuki*").

It is our understanding that the present invention is directed to an audio signal processing apparatus in which digital signals fed to a signal processing unit are processed according to parameters set by operating components that are controlled by a system controller, and according to past operation data stored in a memory. Particularly, a storing section stores a series of past operation data containing past operation information of the operating means (see page 23, lines 10-17 of the specification).

On the other hand, ***Suzuki*** discloses an audio mixing console that includes a signal processing circuit 40 for processing commands from a control system 36, which retrieves position information from a memory 38 and sets an operator 1 based on a given mode, or receives new position information for further processing thereof. Particularly, ***Suzuki*** merely discloses storing and using only the last operation position information (see col. 4, lines 1-10 and lines 45-46).

As such, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to further define that the past operation data are a series of past operation data. It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as now set forth in claims 1 and 2 is neither disclosed nor taught by **Suzuki**.

Claims 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Suzuki** in view of Silfvast et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,438,241, hereinafter "**Silfvast**").

Silfvast is cited to purportedly compensate for the acknowledged deficiencies in **Suzuki** regarding a rotational body and optical pulse encoder as set forth in claims 3 and 4. Moreover, in addition to citing **Suzuki** and **Silfvast**, both inherency and well-known knowledge are cited to cover the missing limitations in claims 4 and 5 with respect to (1) an angular velocity and rotating direction of the rotational body, (2) JET processing block, (3) ZIP processing block, (4) WAH processing block, (5) RING processing block, and (6) FUZZ processing block.

However, **Silfvast** does not supplement for the above-discussed deficiency in **Suzuki** with respect to with respect to a storing section that stores a series of past operation data. Therefore, since claims 3-6 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claim 1 also render claims 3-6 patentable over the cited references of **Suzuki** and **Silfvast**.

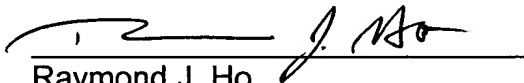
In view of the above remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 1-6 recites subject matter which is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited

prior art. Applicants therefore request that each of claims 1-6 be found allowable, and this application passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,


Raymond J. Ho
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 41,838

Customer No.: 004372
ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810

RJH:elz:klf
184370_1.DOC